

RECEIVED

JUL 03 2007

Ravalli County Commissioners

June 20, 2007

--	--	--	--	--

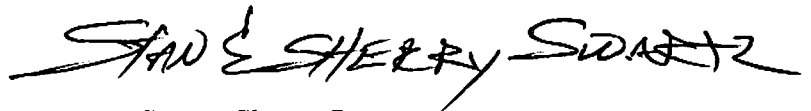
When informed of the County's desire to reopen an old rock quarry at the mouth of Lost Horse Canyon on Forest Service land, I thought, how could the Forest Service even consider it? This is a heavily used recreation area with abundant wildlife, close to Hamilton and enjoyed by campers, fishermen, rock climbers, bikers, and horsemen.

The conflicts I see are not only of the practical nature but also, more importantly, a safety issue. You don't mix horse trailers, bikers, hikers and campers essentially on a one-lane, curvy, gravel road with large trucks hauling rock.

The long-term value, as a recreation area, far outweighs the rock removed for the County's benefit. The cost to the county taxpayer, after attempting to mitigate the practical and safety conflicts, would far outweigh the benefit of rock taken from this area.

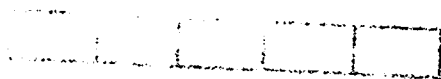
The County needs to drop this poorly thought-out idea and the Forest Service should not issue a permit for this to happen.

Respectfully,



Stan & Sherry Swartz

cc: Chuck Oliver, Btr NF, Darby RD
Ravalli County Commissioners



CHINA, CHINA, CHINA, CHINA, CHINA

CHINA, CHINA, CHINA, CHINA, CHINA

CHINA, CHINA, CHINA, CHINA, CHINA